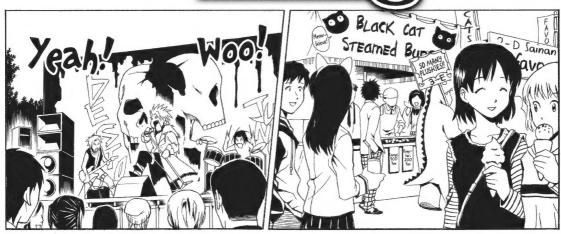


Story: Saki Hasemi Art: Kentaro Yabuki































































Character File 2



This time, we'll be discussing Tenjouin Saki. Even though the two of us have similar names, we didn't exactly intend for that to happen. It was just what we thought of based on Yabuki-san's drawing, so don't think about it too deeply (ha ha)!



☆Her Position as a Character

We had two reasons for creating Saki. The first was that we wanted to add a senpai-type character--someone who looks down on everyone from on high. So, we introduced her as someone older than Rito and company. The other reason was that her being a girl from the upper crust of society means she comes from a position of wealth. A character who doesn't hold back when it comes to speaking her mind, who also happens to be rich--that's a character who can be very convenient when it comes to advancing the story. Thanks to Saki and the power of her money, developing events for the story is super easy.

••••••••••••

☆A Really Earnest Girl (So we think...)

When Saki first appears, she tries to get at Rito by using her sex appeal and basically behaves like a huge lady-pervert. However, she's really an earnest, straight-thinking girl at heart. Consider her behavior as the embodiment of a girl's earnest thinking, a girl who simply must be number one at whatever she chooses to do. Yeah, so, then... Maybe she's not really a pervert... I think. Following that same line of thinking, Yabuki-san added Saki's dialogue in Trouble 29 during the storyboarding stage.

••••••

☆Rin and Aya

A pair who admire Saki in such a way that they're always saying, "That's our Saki-sama!" Though, I really couldn't tell you exactly what that means! Eventually, I guess there will come a time when she supports them... Probably? On a somewhat related note, Aya and Rin are not twins.



☆How We Handle Her

Lately, it seems like every time we put Saki on the page, we're undressing her and making a victim out of her. In all honesty, she might be the number one victim in this entire manga. Nevertheless, as we move forward, we're going to depict her in a bright and positive way, so please offer her your warm encouragement!



























































We started our plan to write about the characters beginning in Volume 3. Since we skipped Volumes 1 and 2, we figured we'd do two this time and talk about Rito, as well!



☆As the Protagonist

When we were planning *To Love-Ru*, Yabuki-san had made up his mind about a few things. First, we had to have a love triangle (and the points had to be Rito, Lala, and Haruna). Second, Rito couldn't be **a** pervert. With all that being the case, Yabuki-san and I were pretty much in agreement as to the type of protagonist that we wanted. (For that matter, we were in agreement about the type of protagonist we really *didn't* like, too!



☆A Protagonist Boys Can Support

Yabuki-san and I really focused on developing Rito's character. We took care to portray him as someone whose actions weren't unpleasant or unlikeable. In fact, we were probably even more careful of this with the protagonist than we were with Lala and Haruna. Since *TLR* is serialized in a magazine for boys, lots of boys will be reading it. So, if male readers didn't support the protagonist, we'd be completely out of luck. We thought drawing cute girls would be meaningless if readers didn't support and like Rito. This might seem obvious, but the manga lives and dies by how well we handle it.

••••••

☆Growth as a Protagonist

In the beginning, Rito is completely unaccustomed to dealing with girls. However, by meeting the totally innocent and naïve Lala--as well as through his love for the girl of his dreams, Haruna--he starts to grow, if only bit by bit. What form that growth takes, though, is connected with his decisions. I hope you'll enjoy seeing how that unfolds! Even we still aren't totally sure how it's all going to go--and we're his creators!



※ Next time, we'll be covering the character on the cover of Volume 5 and Lala. We're taking a little break from Zastin's adventures.



















































TROUBLE 29: SMALL ADVENTURE







































































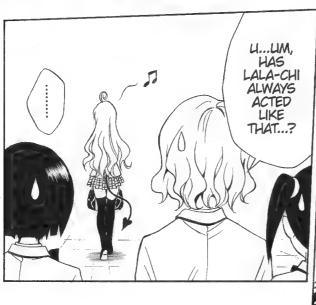


































IS, DO YOU?!









































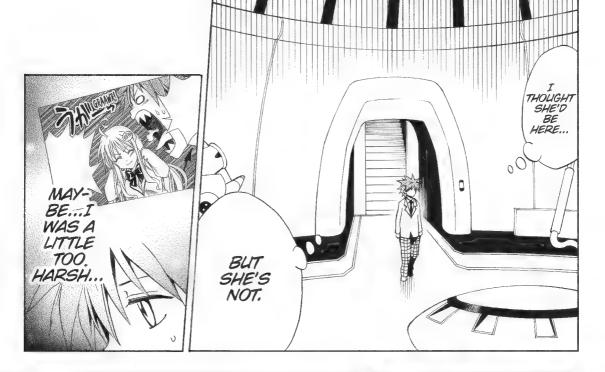












































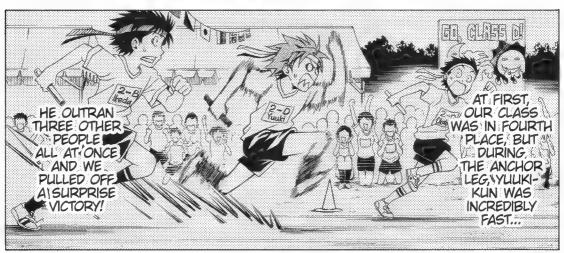


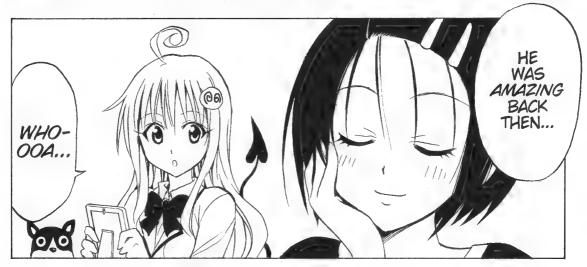




















































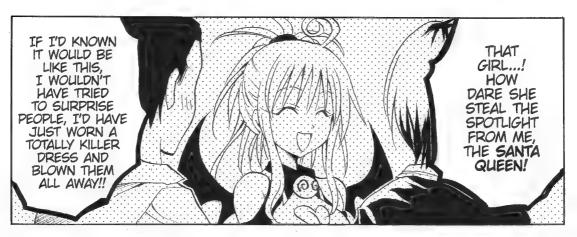




















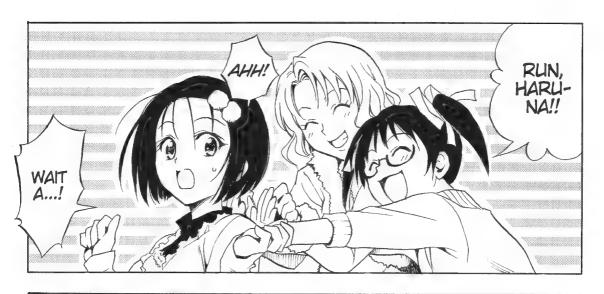










































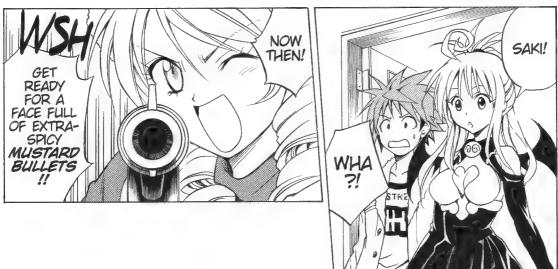


TROUBLE 34: HEAVY CHRISTMAS





















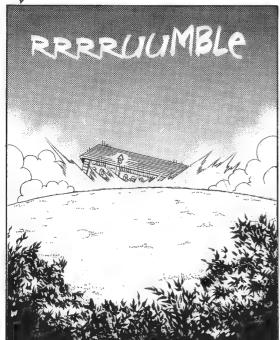


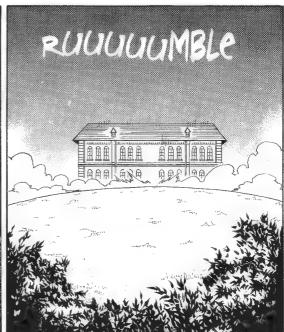


























SEVEN SEAS' GHOST SHIP PRESENTS



TRANSLATION Alex Gaspard

ADAPTATION J.P. Sullivan

LETTERING AND LAYOUT
Paweł Szczeszek

Logo DESIGN Larry Kotef

cover design **Nicky Lim**

PROOFREADER
Janet Houck
Tom Speelman

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Jenn Grunigen

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

CK Russell

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Lissa Pattillo

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Adam Arnold

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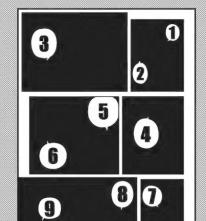
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at



Where the Sun Don't Shine

The summertime hijinks continue with a trip to the beach! Rito gets an eyeful of Lala and Haruna in their swimsuits and the boys try to sneak into the girls' rooms.

Meanwhile, Lala's enthusiastic feelings for Rito brew a storm of uncertainty in his heart.

The Shonen Jump Hit that Inspired Multiple Anime!

OLDER TEEN

